

VZCZCXRO7197
OO RUEHGI RUEHMA RUEHROV
DE RUEHNJ #0069 0321213
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 011213Z FEB 08
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6045
INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY 0989
RUEHBP/AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY 0895
RUEHGI/AMEMBASSY BANGUI PRIORITY 1471
RUEHNM/AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY 3039
RUEHNM/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY 0159
RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY 1649
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
RUSNNOT/SOCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY

UNCLAS NDJAMENA 000069

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR OPS, AF/C, DS, CA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#) [CASC](#) [MOPS](#) [SU](#) [PINS](#) [ASEC](#) [CD](#)
SUBJECT: SITREP 4: CHAD SITUATION AT 1330 ON 1 FEBRUARY

REF: NDJAMENA 67 AND PREVIOUS

GENERAL SITUATION

¶1. (SBU) N'djamena is still tense but calm. Agence France Presse (AFP) reports that fighting has broken out near Massaguet, 60-90 miles NE of the capital. A few hundred Chadian riot police and various armored tanks have been seen moving about the city. Chadian military aircraft have left the airport. There are a number of heavily armed vehicles in front of the presidential palace. Embassy Officers are in close contact with their diplomatic (French, Egyptian, Chinese) and UN counterparts.

EAC MTG at 1000

¶2. (SBU) Ambassador convened a meeting of the Emergency Action Committee (EAC) on February 1 at 1000 local time to receive update on assessments of the current security environment and review tripwires for Authorized Departure status. Key offices and personnel represented at the meeting included: AMB, A/DCM, DATT, POL/ECON, RSO, CONS, IPC, and POL/MIL. EAC decided: (a) to keep all mission personnel at concentrated locations and prohibit travel (b) to approve updated tripwires (see para 3).

¶3. (SBU) The EAC agreed that the result of any military engagement between rebels and government forces will be an important factor to consider when determining if any one of the tripwires have been reached. The EAC agreed that as of 1000 local time, no tripwires have been reached.

TRIPWIRES FOR AUTHORIZED DEPARTURE

-- Indications that the Government is unable to ensure order in the city and surrounding environment.

-- Indications that prolonged uncertainty requires continued extreme stand fast posture for EFMs.

-- Indications that French/EU move to equivalent of authorized departure.

-- Inability to support operations because of lack of communications, food, electrical power, fuel, water, etc.

NB: The result of any military engagement will be decisive:

-- If government wins a major battle, situation will remain/return to normal.

-- If rebels win a major battle, situation will deteriorate, at least in the short term.

MISSION POSTURE

¶4. (SBU) All Embassy Community personnel remain in consolidated positions. The Embassy has staged work crews available and active in facilities, computer support, security, health and other services at both the Chancery and the American compounds. Power and utilities, except cell phones, appear to be functioning normally. An updated warden message will be released to the American Community advising of the situation in the city and USG security arrangements, as per "no double standards" policy. We will also reconvene a EAC at 1600 local time.
NIGRO